

REMARKS

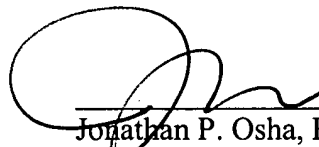
By way of this reply, claims 1, 7-9, 12, and 13 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 2-6, 10, and 11 have been amended, and new claims 17-22 have been added. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments as support for these amendments may be found, for example, in original claims 1-16 of the present application.

The claims, as amended, do not contain independent sets of arguably distinct species as indicated by the Examiner prior to the amendments proposed herein. Accordingly, Applicant believes the amendments render the Restriction Requirement of September 23, 2004 moot and place the present application in condition for allowance.

Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 03226.050001; P5180).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 12/3/04



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